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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Toshiaki HASHIZUME and Shinji HABA

Application No.: U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP98/02200

Filed: January 7, 1999

Docket No.: 101850

For: OPTICAL MODULATION ELEMENT AND PROJECTION DISPLAY DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract to read:

--Liquid crystal modulation elements (optical modulation elements) are placed so that light outgoing surfaces thereof face light incident surfaces of a color synthesizing prism, respectively. Transparent plates are bonded to the light outgoing surfaces of the liquid crystal modulation elements. Therefore, it is possible to prevent dust from adhering to the light outgoing surfaces of the liquid crystal modulation elements. Furthermore, it is possible to prevent light reflection at the interface surface between the light outgoing surfaces and air because of the difference in refractive index therebetween. This permits the projection of a high-quality image without deteriorating the switching characteristic of the liquid crystal modulation elements while preventing dust from adhering to the light outgoing surfaces of the liquid crystal modulation elements.--